

REQUIREMENTS FOR
SPECIALIZED SECONDARY CERTIFICATE
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING
OR MATHEMATICS (STEM)

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – CERTIFICATION UNIT

➤ **Specialized STEM Education, 7-12 Certificate**

This specialized certificate is valid for 6 years and may be renewed.

Requirements for the Specialized Secondary - STEM, 7-12 certificate are:

1. Completed Application for Certification
2. Appropriate Fee (See Application for Certification)
3. A photocopy of your valid Arizona **IVP** fingerprint card (plastic) issued on or after January 1, 2008.
4. A Bachelor's or more advanced degree from an accredited institution. Official transcript(s) must be submitted.
5. Verification of three (3) semester hours or forty-five (45) clock hours state approved Structured English Immersion (SEI) training or comparable state approved SEI training from another state to qualify for the Provisional SEI endorsement. (Submit an application and an additional \$60 fee to add the Provisional SEI endorsement.)

NOTE: The Provisional SEI endorsement is valid for three years. An additional three semester hours of state approved SEI training will be required to qualify for the Full SEI endorsement.

Individuals who hold an Arizona Full Bilingual or Full ESL endorsement are exempt from the SEI endorsement requirement. The requirement for a Provisional SEI endorsement may be waived for a period not to exceed one year for individuals who graduate from administrator or teacher preparation programs that are not approved by the Arizona State Board of Education and meet all other applicable certification requirements.

6. One of the following options:
 - A. Option A – Postsecondary teaching experience – science, technology, engineering or mathematics
 - i. Have taught science, technology, engineering or mathematics courses for the last two consecutive years, and for a total of at least three years, at one or more regionally or nationally accredited public or private postsecondary institutions. Submit a letter on college or university letterhead, signed by a Department Chair or HR Department, documenting proof of employment from each applicable qualifying postsecondary institution, including specific durations of employment and the nature of the teaching assignment; **AND**
 - ii. Demonstrate adequate subject matter knowledge through either:
 - a. A baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a doctoral degree in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; **OR**
 - b. A passing score on one or more of science, technology, engineering or mathematics exams of the subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.
 - B. Option B – Work experience – science, technology, engineering or mathematics:
 - i. A passing score on the NES Assessment of Professional Knowledge: Secondary **OR** a passing score on the AEPA Professional Knowledge Secondary exam (replaced by the NES Assessment) **AND**
 - ii. Have ten or more years of work experience in science, technology, engineering or mathematics, to be demonstrated by providing written proof of employment from each applicable employer, including specific durations of employment and the nature of the assignment; **AND**
 - iii. Demonstrate adequate subject matter knowledge through either:
 - a. A baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a doctoral degree in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; **OR**
 - b. Twenty-four hours of relevant coursework in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; **OR**
 - c. A passing score on one or more science, technology, engineering or mathematics subject knowledge portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.
7. Arizona Constitution (a college course or the appropriate examination).
8. U.S. Constitution (a college course or the appropriate examination).

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NOTE: If you otherwise qualify for the certificate but are deficient in Arizona and/or U.S. Constitution you have 3 years under a valid teaching certificate to fulfill the requirement.

➤ **RENEWAL OF SPECIALIZED SECONDARY CERTIFICATE (STEM), 7-12 CERTIFICATE**

The certificate may be renewed 6 months before it expires. All requirements for the renewal of the certificate must be met.

1. One hundred eighty (180) clock hours of professional development after the most recent issuance or renewal of the Specialized Secondary Certificate – STEM.
2. Verification of additional 3 semester hours or 45 clock hours of state approved Structured English Immersion (SEI) training or comparable state approved SEI training from another state to qualify for the Full SEI endorsement.

***NOTE:** Individuals who hold a Full Bilingual or Full ESL endorsement are exempt from the SEI endorsement requirement.*

3. A photocopy of your valid Arizona **IVP** fingerprint card (plastic) issued on or after January 1, 2008.